GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5217
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2002
BT COTTON SEEDS A NEW TRAP FOR SMALL FARMERS
NANDIPAKU VENKATASWAMY

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the BT cotton seeds are a new trap for small farmers in the country making them indebted since the seeds will be sold through the private firms only;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial measures taken to save the small farmers therefrom?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) to (c): No, Sir. Most of the hybrid cotton seed already been sold in the country is by private firms. ICAR is also conducting research in the development of transgenic cotton varieties.